PARISH BRADEN

REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

DAVID WATKINS

U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Natural Resources Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2019

The Honorable Tom Wooten Chairman Samish Indian Nation 2918 Commercial Avenue P.O. Box 217 Anacortes, WA 98221

Dear Chairman Wooten:

Thank you, again, for testifying before the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States on H.R. 2961, on June 5th, 2019. As a follow-up to your testimony, please find enclosed additional questions submitted by members of the Committee for inclusion in the final hearing record. Please provide your written responses to: Naomi Miguel, Subcommittee Professional Staff, **no later than June 19, 2019.** Committee Rule 3(o) requiring responses within 10 business days of the last day of the hearing.

We appreciate your time and insight, and we remain grateful for your contribution to the Committee's work. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Ruben Gallego

Chairman

Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the U.S.

Questions from Representative Paul Cook

- 1. At the hearing, you mentioned local support for your trust land efforts in your testimony. Could you please elaborate on this support?
- 2. Does H.R. 2961 affect the treaty rights of neighboring tribes or the treaty rights of the Samish Indian Nation?
- 3. Please explain the purpose of Section 2(b) of H.R. 2961?
- 4. If H.R. 375 were to be signed into law, could you explain how this would assist the Samish Indian Nation in its efforts to take land into trust?